

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00
SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-14
L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 SS-15
SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05 /122 W
-----043192 190000Z /15

R 181100Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6046

UNCLAS NDJAMENA 0215

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV
SUBJECT: DATA FOR THE YEAR 2000 STUDY

REF: STATE 002024

1. VIRTUALLY NO STATISTICAL DATA LOCALLY AVAILABLE
WITH REGARD TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL. DEFORESTATION
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT DURING
PAST DECADE AND IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE
MILLENNIUM WITH AGGRAVATED RESULTS. COMMON PERCEPTION
OF MOST OBSERVERS IN CHAD IS THAT DEMAND FOR COOKING
FUEL IS PRIMARY AND UNABATED CAUSE OF UNQUANTIFIED
BUT SIGNIFICANT LEVEL OF DEFORESTATION. SECONDARY
CAUSES ARE UNCONTROLLED EXPANSION OF SLASH/BURN
AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AND FORAGE DEMANDS FOR
LIVESTOCK. WHILE FORESTRY SERVICE IS MAKING EFFORT,
ALONG WITH A FEW AID DONORS, TO MAINTAIN EXISTING
RESERVES AND DEVELOP NEW ONES, THESE EFFORTS ARE,
ON NATIONAL SCALE, COMPLETELY INSIGNIFICANT.
REQUIREMENT FOR ALTERNATIVE FUEL SOURCES IS
INDICATED, HOWEVER, NO ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE
SOLUTION IS PRESENTLY ANTICIPATED. IT IS FURTHER
BELIEVED, THOUGH UNQUANTIFIED, THAT DEFORESTATION
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ALONG WITH TRADITIONAL LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES IS HAVING SERIOUS EFFECT ON SOIL FERTILITY
LEVELS. THIS IS CERTINLY TRUE IN SAHELIAN PORTION
OF THE COUNTRY. ONE PORTION OF CHAD WHICH HAS
BEEN SITE OF CONSIDERABLE OBSERVATION IS RANGELANDS
LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF LAKE CHAD. IN THIS AREA
FOOD CROP PRODUCTION IS ONLY MARGINAL AND RANGE

MANAGEMENT EXPERTS HAVE DETERMINED THAT, DUE TO OVERGRAZING, RANGE IS IN STATE OF RAPID DECLINE. THERE HAS BEEN NO EVIDENCE OBSERVED REGARDING CHANGES IN WATERSHED DUE TO FORESTRY PRACTICES, HOWEVER, ONE MIGHT SUSPECT THAT IMPACT OF HUMAN POPULATIONS IS CONTRIBUTORY TO THE LONG-TERM CHANGES IN WATER LEVELS OF LAKE CHAD. FINAL CONCLUSION IS THAT UNLESS TREND IS REVERSED, SEVERE LAND DEGRADATION OVER MUCH OF CHAD WILL BE EVIDENT BY YEAR 2000.

2. NO DATA AT ALL ARE AVAILABLE REGARDING SECTIONS (C), (D) AND (E) OF REFTTEL.

3. SITUATION IN CHAD SHOULD BE ANALYZED IN CONTEXT OF ENTIRE SUDANO/SAHELIAN REGION. RECOMMEND ANALYSIS AND FINAL REPORT BE HANDLED ACCORDINGLY. BRADFORD

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 18 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: DATA FOR THE YEAR 2000 STUDY
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